

REMARKS

Applications appreciate the Examiner's thorough review of the present application, and respectfully request reconsideration in light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

According to the office action, the unpatentability of this application is due to:

1. The title of the invention not being descriptive.
2. The drawings failing to show the third and fourth resistors.
3. Claims 1-2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C 112, wherein
 - a. There is no support in figures 3, 4 and 6 for a first MOS transistor being closer to the guard ring than a second MOS transistor; and
 - b. There is no support in the specification for an embodiment that teaches the concept recited in claim 1.
4. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C.102(b) as being anticipated by Duvvury et al. (US Pat. No. 6,667,865)
5. Claim2 is rejected under 35U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over Duvvury et al. (US Pat. No. 6,667,865) in view of Verhaege et al.(US Pat. No. 6,583,972).

In order to meet the requirements of the above-mentioned point 1, the title of this application has been amended to "SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE HAVING INCREASED ESD PROTECTION BY CHANGING RESISTANCE". The Office is respectfully requested to withdraw the objection.

In order to meet the requirements of the above-mentioned point 2, claim 2 has been cancelled.

In order to meet the requirements of the above mentioned point 3-a, the description "said first MOS transistor is closer to said guard ring than second MOS transistor" in claim 1 has been amended to "said first MOS transistor is closer to said guard ring than second MOS

transistor in a horizontal direction in which said first MOS transistor and said second MOS transistor are arranged alternatively” according to Figs. 3, 4 and 6.

In order to meet the requirements of the above-mentioned point 3-b, the description “a channel length of said first MOS transistor is equal to that of said second MOS transistor, and” in claim 1 has been deleted.

Claim 1 have been amended and remains pending after entry of this amendment.

However, the rejection of claim 1 is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Referring to Fig. 4 of the invention, the first resistor has one end electrically connected to a gate of said first MOS transistor and the other end grounded, and so does the second resistor. However, the resistor 512 in Fig. 5 of Duvvury has one end connected to a gate of a MOS transistor and the other end connected to a source of the same MOS transistor (referring to P4/L56, L57). In other words, the both ends of resistor 512 are connected to the same MOS transistor. Moreover, one end of the resistor 310 in Fig 4 of Duvvury is connected to a plurality of MOS transistors. Thus, the connection types between resistors 310, 512 and other devices are different from that of the invention.

Further, the specification of Duvvury fails to teach how resistors 310 and 512 function in the same manner as now claimed.

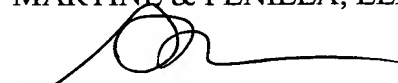
In Fig. 11 of Verhaege, one end of each of resistors Rs1, Rs2...Rsn is connected to more than one MOS transistors, respectively. However, one end of each first and second resistors of the invention is connected to only one MOS transistor respectively, such that the structural connection of Verhaege is different from that of the invention. It is also important to note that resistors Rs1, Rs2...Rsn of Verhaege address a different problem than the resistors of the invention. In Verhaege, resistors Rs1, Rs2...Rsn provide an advantage to the bias of MOS transistor. However, the first and second resistors of the invention balance the difference between the inner resistance of substrate.

Since Duvvury and Verhaege fail to suggest or teach the structural features and connections of the claimed invention, reconsideration of claim 1 is respectfully requested in light of the above discussion.

A Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning the present amendment, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at (408) 749-6903. If any other fees are due in connection with filing this amendment, the Commissioner is also authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No JLINP093.DIV1). A duplicate copy of the transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,
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